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HUNGARIAN WEATHER REPORT FOR JANUARY 1951

There were great deviations in precipitation during January. Precipitation for the month in Bekes, Csongrad, Szolnok, Hajdu, Heves, and Borsod counties was below 20 millimeters, and in the area between Puspokladany and Berettyoujfalu below 10 millimeters. The least precipitation was recorded at Berettyoujfalu, 8 millimeters, or 27 percent of the Accal average; at Szendrolad 10 millimeters, 42 percent, at Karcag 11 millimeters, 48 percent; at Oroshaza 11 midlimeters, 45 percent; at Miscolc 11 millimeters, 41 percent; at Turkeve 13 millimeters, 52 percent; at Gyongyos 13 millimeters, 45 percent; at Hidasnemeti 14 millimeters, 54 percent; at Debrecen 14 millimeters, 44 percent; and at Bekessaba 15 millimeters, 49 percent. There was more than average precipitation in some places in southwest Hungary, in the Danube-Tisza interfluve at Bacsalmas and Nagykoros, and at Tiszafured, Satoraljaujhely, and Zahony. Precipitation at Zahony and Kapuvar, and in Was and Zala counties totaled 150 percent of the average, and reached 70 millimeters at Lenti and Szentgotthard, which is 195 percent of the average.

As was characteristic of the entire winter, precipitation during January was evenly distributed. Daily precipitation of as much as 10 millimeters was rare. There were 10 - 15 days of precipitation during the month (i.e., days on which there was at least 0.1 millimeter precipitation). There were 19 days of precipitation at Baja.

Temperature during January was generally mild. The only deviation from normal was that the temperature in Sopron was 1.5 degrees [centigrade used throughout 7 higher, at Kalocsa 3.5 degrees higher, at Debrecen and Turkeve 3.5 degrees higher, and at Bekescsaba 4.1 degrees higher than average. Only on 2 days of the month did the median temperature at Budapest drop below the average: minus 0.7 degrees deviation on the 22d and minus 1 degree on the 25th. The 23d was the coldest day of the month for the rest of the country, with low temperatures averaging minus 2 to minus 5 degrees; minus 5.9 degrees was recorded at Bekescsaba, minus 6 degrees at Kecskemet, minus 7.4 degrees at Miskolc. At the soil surface, minus 8.1 degrees was recorded at Gyor, minus 9.3 degrees at Miscolc, and minus 12 degrees at Salgotarjan.

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The 1st was the coldest day of the month at the western border, and below-zero temperatures prevailed in the south and in parts of the north. Such temperatures are usual for this time of the year, and are noteworthy only because of the unusual mildness of the rest of the winter.

Air masses arriving on the 3d from the south and southwest brought unsettled weather, rain, snow, and sleet, but precipitation did not exceed one millimeter. On the first days of the month, the southern portion of the country was covered with a thin layer of snow which disappeared during the next few days, leaving only patches of snow on the 6th. There were only occasional night frosts.

On the 7th, a warm mass from the Mediterranean arrived above Budapest and descended on the 8th, causing the temperature to rise sudderly to 7 - 9 degrees at Budapest and up to 11 degrees in the south and southwest. The temperature then dropped with equal rapidity, causing general frost on the 9th with the exception of the south, where ice was thawing. Following days of vacillating temperature, a subtropical air mass arrived on the 12th, which was the warmest day of the month, with highs of 11.5 degrees recorded at Budapest, 11.8 degrees at Kalaegerszeg and Kalocsa, 12.3 degrees at Szeged, 12.5 degrees at Kecskemet, 12.6 degrees at Keszthely, and 14.8 degrees at Pecs. On the 13th, the temperature reached 12.7 degrees at Debrecen and Turkeve, and 13.6 degrees at Bekescsaba.

There was surface frost in many places on the night of the 12th, however, and the temperature dropped to minus 3 degrees at Baja, Kalocsa, and Nyiregyhaza. The mildness was broken on the 13th by the entrance of cooler air from the south, causing considerable rain west of the Danube: 21 millimeters rain was reported at Kald, 17 at Gyekenyes, 16 at Szentgotthard, Tapolca, and Zalaegerszeg, and 15 millimeters at Nagykanizsa. On the 15th and 16th, there was some rain west of the Danube and on the Great Plain, and snow in the mountains. The ground in the higher regions was again covered with snow. General snowfall on the 18th covered the ground to a depth of several centimeters everywhere except in the western border area. On the morning of the 19th, the temperature everywhere dropped below freezing. Because of diurnal warming, however, most of the snow covering melted, except in the northeastern counties and the mountain regions.

Air masses from the southwest brough moderate frosts on the morning of the 22d, with no thaw during the day. The cold weather of the 23d was broken suddenly by the entrance of a mass of Mediterranean sea air at the vicinity of the southern Alps, beginning a period of unsettled weather which lasted into the middle of February. The front formed by the warm and cold masses was located in the region of the Drava and Szava rivers most of the time, but passed over the country several times, accompanied by rapid changes in temperature and precipitation. Vas and Zala counties received considerable precipitation during these few days.

Following low temperatures on the 25th and 28th, the last day of the month was mild and surface frost formed in only a few places.

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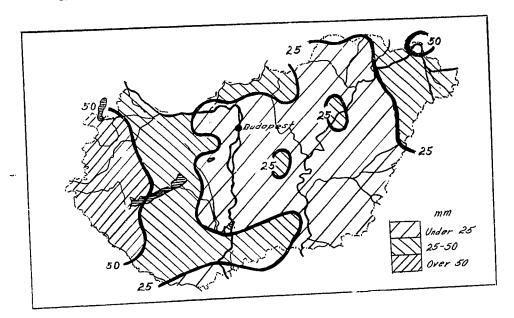
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The following map shows the distribution of precipitation in January 1951:



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